Vol. V. Numb 37

The EXAMINER.

From Friday April 2, to Monday April 5, 1714.

——Hæc omnia inſunt vitia : injuriæ
Suſpiciones, inimicitiæ, induciæ,
Bellum, pax rurſum. Incerta hæc ſi tu poſtules
Ratione certa facere, nihilo plus agas,
Quam ſi des operam, ut cum ratione inſanias. Terence.

I Hear ſome of my Cotemporaries talk ever now and then of *Opening Men's Eyes*, and of Convincing their Neighbours; by ſhewing them, *What is their True Intereſt*; and, *Who are their Beſt Friends*. When they have been for ſome time engag'd in this Undertaking (no matter how they manage the Cauſe) they give out in Terms becoming their Modeſty, *How mightily their* Works *ſell*; and, *What abundance of Good they have done:* And yet another time, if any Body of their own Side does but offer to abate of their Zeal or Fury, or give a kind Glance towards the *Moderate Men*, or make the leaſt Step in the way of *Reformation*, they cry out, A *New Convert!* A *New Convert!* And then they think they have call'd him ſufficiently; without further recourſe to thoſe *Catalogues* of *Hard Names*, which they always carry about them. Certainly, whatever Airs theſe People give themſelves, when they tell ſtrange News of *doing Good* and *opening Eyes*, their Cauſe is declining, and their Numbers falling away by Revolt and Deſertion; ſince they begin to run down their own good Old Principles, of *Enquiring after Truth with Freedom and Impartiality*, and of *Altering or Retracting Opinions, whenever they are found to be Wrong*. If this were not the Caſe, they would not treat thoſe they call *New Converts* in the manner they do, by ſhewing them all their Fangs, Claws, Teeth, Horns, and other Implements of Revenge, in ſuch bloody and dreadful Array; to let them ſee, if it were in their Power, they would purſue them to *Maſſacres* and *Inquiſitions*, and give them no Quarter. Without queſtion, they ground this Sort of Proceeding upon the Nature of their Cauſe; which muſt be ſupported by Violence, becauſe it will not bear cool Reaſoning and Debate; and therefore when they ſhould *Argue*, *Anſwer*, *Reply*, *Demonſtrate*, and *Convince*; they find it more for their *Intereſt* and the common Benefit of their *Party*, to *Clamour*, *Revile*, *Accuſe*, *Menace*, and *Condemn*. 'Tis true they hate *Tyranny*, and rail at every Uſurpation over the Minds of Men: For we are to know, they have a Rival and Competitor. But ſet *Popery* aſide, and confine the *Whore of Babylon* to her uſual *Plying Places*, and then *Junta* is very good *Spaniſh* for *Inquiſition*, and *Whigs* can act the Part of *Jeſuits*, without taking their *Name* or *Habit*, or even ſo much as the *Form of Goditneſs* belonging to a Religious *Order*.

I often talk of a *Cauſe*, and of *Principles* and *Maxims* belonging to the *Faction*; but it muſt be confeſs'd, ſuch Expreſſions are a groſs Abuſe of Words, and a high Reflection upon our Mother Tongue. What *Maxims*, what *Principles* can there be in a *Syſtem*, I ſhould ſay a *Heap*, of Contradictions and Abſurdities? 'Tis a difficult Thing for me to imagine, in what Terms, and after what Manner, the Creature call'd a *Whig*, who is a Maſter of his Profeſſion, and appointed to Train up Scholars and Sucklings for his *Party*, or to venture ever now and then among thoſe who are thought weak enough to be made *Converts*, can acceſt his Diſciples and Followers; or offer to explain himſelf upon what, by a prodigious *Irony*, is called the Reaſons and Grounds of the preſent Behaviour and Conduct of the *Faction*. Surely *Whigs* are made, if not by the ſame *Power*, yet the very ſame way, that *Witches* and *Conjurers* are admitted into their Society: Either by ſome private Mark, or upon the Repetition of a few hard unintelligible Words, which are to have no other Meaning, but what appears in the Operation, and by the miſchievous Effects they have upon the *Bodies*, *Goods* and *Chattels* of their Neighbours. For it is impoſſible that an able and learned Profeſſor, or Propagator of *Whigiſm*, can freely and without Reſerve, produce the old Articles and Conſtitutions of his Party, before a Crew of ſneering Moderns, who are about to be Furniſh'd and Equipp'd for the Service; and to be let into all the Secrets and *Cabbala* of *Faction*. Such Proceeding muſt expoſe him to Contempt and Ridicule; and ſtrip him at once of all his Followers. Will he preſume ſo much as to mention the Word *Liberty*, when an Intereſt is to be made for reſtoring the *Junta*, and introducing a *Stratocracy*? Will he dare to pop out the Term, *Property*, when a Deſign is on Foot to throw off t'other *Dozen* of *Millions*, to purchaſe *Fiſhponds*, *Pigeon-Houſes*, *Windmills*, and *Barriers*, for the firſt merry Sharper who can Catch them? Will he talk of *Law*, when he ſhould be finding Salvo's for *Diſobedience*? Or of the Rights of the *Commons*, when *Faction* is become the Object of *Addreſſes*, *Petitions*, and *Remonſtrances*? Or of the Dignity of *Parliaments*, when the *Majority* is againſt him? Will he venture to ſay one Word about *Evil Counſellors*, *Calling to Account*, and the like; or ſo much as whiſper that dreadful Diſſyllable, *Juſtice*, *Juſtice*, when all the publick Plunderers and Enemies to their Country are on his Side, the Founders of his School, and Benefactors to his Society? Will it be for his purpoſe to drop the leaſt Hint concerning *Moderation*, when it is every one's Duty to *look about him*, to *make Ready*, to *ſtand up as one Man*, and to *Cry aloud and ſpare not*? Far be it from that buſy Intelligent Being a *Whig*, to take up with theſe ſtale exploded Notions, the muſty Sayings and Remains of dreaming Anceſtors; who were content with the Praiſe of Meaning well, and Doing nothing. A Maſter in *Faction* will advance and improve upon the Wiſdom of the laſt Age; and ſo long as the main Deſign, *Intereſt* and *Power*, are ſtill kept in View, will find out new Ways and Means, or vary the old Ones at Diſcretion, till the Work is accompliſh'd.

I ſhould therefore be inclined to think, that a Profeſſor of this Art ought to come directly to the Point, and ſhew his Pupils, at once, the Sum of their Duty. He may inſtruct and initiate them thus. 'Sir! You are 'a *Talkative Animal*. You have the *Gift* and *Liberty* 'of Speech. And what was it given you for, but to 'ſerve your *Country*, which is your *Party*? *Truth* is

'indeed

‘ indeed a good Thing, when one can be believ'd, and
‘ it will answer Purposes: But will you throw it away
‘ upon Reprobates? Can you *Lye*, Sir? *Lye* lustily,
‘ by the Month, the Week, or the Day? You are a
‘ Gentleman: Can you *Lye* upon your Honour and
‘ Reputation? You are a *Protestant*; and dare you not
‘ out-face your old Enemies the *Papists*? You are *Rich*:
‘ Can't you back it with a *Wager*? Fear not: If you
‘ *Lye* to Day, you will be Believ'd to Morrow. You
‘ have Friends; very good Friends, and very numerous;
‘ who will support your Credit. Begin with small
‘ Matters, and try your Talent betimes. That Face of
‘ yours is a Promising Face, that will stand *Interroga-*
‘ *tories*, and make a very good *Evidence*. You may run
‘ to the *Church-Door* when *Sermon* is over, and then
‘ tell the *Family*, the *Text* was in *Numbers*; and Face
‘ the whole Congregation down, if they offer to say it
‘ was in *Kings*. Do you understand *Fortification*, Sir?
‘ You see the Plan of this Town here. It stands as it
‘ did, when it could not be Taken: And yet you shall
‘ Swear; It is not worth having. And then do but
‘ observe and see it blow'd up; and in a Moment you
‘ shall be able to give out; *It is as Formidable as ever.*
‘ Thus, Sir, you'll Improve, and in time may come to
‘ alarm a *Coffee-House*, or furnish Matter for a *Para-*
‘ *graph*. Don't be discourag'd; Sir, *Lyars* are not
‘ now oblig'd to have *good Memories*: For *good Seconds*
‘ will do the Work as well; and *Faction* can give you
‘ a better *Authority* for it than *Travelling*. If you are
‘ hard Sett, say where you had it: Quote your Friends:
‘ We all stand by one another. In a Day or two's
‘ Time, you may engage to produce it in *Print*. But
‘ if you have Qualms and Scruples, or doubt your
‘ Sufficiency; yet still you may be Serviceable in sup-
‘ porting a *Lye*, when told by another of the Brother-
‘ hood. You may spread and blast it abroad; or give
‘ it at least a Nod, a shake of the Head, or some deep
‘ Conjecture and Speculation. Of all *Lyes*, the *Pro-*
‘ *phetick* are the easiest and most hopeful. You may
‘ Belye *to Morrow* without Fear or Measure: Talk of
‘ *Armies*, *Dragoons*, *Gyants*, *Invasions*, any thing: You
‘ are Safe. For when the Day comes, there will be
‘ some fresh *Lye* upon the Stage for the Enemy to take
‘ care of; without minding, or so much as remembring
‘ the Legends of last *Week* and *Yesterday*. These are the
‘ Rules you are to talk by. Lay these Things seriously
‘ to your Conscience; and shew us the Fruits of them
‘ in your Conversation, to the Comfort and Edifica-
‘ tion of your *Party*.

After much the same manner, the venerable *Sage*, turning to another of his Disciples, may say; ‘ Sir,
‘ you seem to have much of the Melancholy and Trist-
‘ ful in your Aspect. Your reigning Distemper is the
‘ *Spleen*. You take delight in being Restless and Un-
‘ easie. Consider, Sir, you were Born for the Good
‘ of others; and apply your Talents to the Service of
‘ your Countrymen. This *Spleen*, turn'd to *Politicks*,
‘ would be of admirable Use. It has a sort of *Divine*
‘ *Right*: *Saturn* presides over it. Your Fancy and Ima-
‘ gination are Visionary and Prognostical. What *Fears*
‘ and *Apprehensions* might not you be Instrumental in
‘ Fomenting and Propagating, for the Benefit of your
‘ Friends? You would be able to dress up the *Pretender*
‘ to Day like a *Puppet*, and set him at the Head of
‘ Fifty Thousand Men to Morrow. Your Penetration
‘ and Second Sight would describe *Fleets* in *Lorrain*,
‘ Troops of *Jesuits* in the *Highlands*, and the *Protestant*
‘ *Religion* shut up in *Barcelona*. You might shew your
‘ Neighbours *Smithfield* all on a Blaze, *St. Wenefrede*
‘ overflowing *Wales*, and the victorious *Generalissimo*,
‘ Count *Teby Butler*, laying *Ireland* under Contribution.
‘ You will be listen'd to and applauded. For the Lea-
‘ ders of our *Party* begin to own some Religion, on
‘ purpose to justify their Friends, who say it is in Dan-
‘ ger, and that they will not be troubled with it much
‘ longer. Look now, Sir, Is there not yonder a *good*
‘ *Ally*, for whom we were to hazard *All*, coming down
‘ in conjunction with *France*, upon the *Netherlands*?
‘ Hark! Do not the Stones cry out from the Ruins of
‘ *Dunkirk*, and in spite of the Impolitick *English*, Insist
‘ with an Assurance, only becoming *French Stones*,
‘ That *they are not yet Demolish'd*? Let others con-
‘ found the *Pope*, laugh at the *Pretender*, and defy the
‘ *Devil*: But do you fear them, and tremble at their
‘ Names. To Day they are burnt: To Morrow aggran-
‘ diz'd: This Moment at *Charing-Cross*; the next at
‘ *Rochester-Bridge*; and there *Two* of them are met by
‘ the Mail, with a full Account of their own safe ar-
‘ rival at *Rome* and *Barleduc*: But as for the *Third*;
‘ no Order is yet taken by the *Junta* for his Removal.
‘ All this while, Sir, be sure to Love your Country:
‘ Love her dearly, as the Wife of your Bosom: Be
‘ continually Jealous of her; make her your Slave, and
‘ as a Token of your Kindness, Teeze, Fright, and
‘ Plague her all your Life-time.

After this, addressing himself to another of his Pupils, the *Whig-Oracle* might go on in his Lecture.
‘ You, Sir! Have an Air of Petulancy and Inquisitive-
‘ ness. The Gall is Predominant in your Constitution.
‘ That Ill-nature of yours, that prying Look, and steddy
‘ Forehead, may do Wonders. Do but raise your Voice,
‘ and try the Volubility and Strength of your Utter-
‘ ance. You shall have the Province of *Accusing* and
‘ *Calumniating*, committed to you. Get to be *Scanda-*
‘ *lous* as soon as ever you can, and in time you may
‘ come to *Write* for the *Party*. The Art of *Arraigning*
‘ and *Impeaching* with a good Grace, requires more
‘ Caution and Nicety than you imagine. Be sure you
‘ never mention the *Capital Crimes*, which have been
‘ forgiven in our Friends: But make the most of a
‘ *Hint* or *Innuendo* in an Enemy. Lay every Aspersion
‘ on thick; and let *Surmise* and *Rumour* supply the
‘ Place of *Fact* and *Evidence*. Provide your self with
‘ a good *Catalogue* of *Names*; and learn that sort of
‘ *Diction*, which turns chiefly upon the *Deplorable*. If
‘ your Governors are without Fault (I only venture to
‘ suppose it among Friends, and between our selves)
‘ then attack the *Good* they do, and *accuse* their *Virtues*.
‘ Let *War*, *Poverty*, and *Eternal Taxes*, be extol'd for
‘ Blessings and Favours: Call *Unity* a *Confederacy*: Cry
‘ down *Wisdom* and *Justice*, as too Popular, and Incon-
‘ sistent with a Free State: *Lenity* as the Consciousness
‘ of Guilt; and call the grateful *Addresses* of Subjects,
‘ *Fawning* and *Flattery*. Suppose now you were to be-
‘ gin upon a Great *Man*. You must not say a Word
‘ of *Millions* sunk, *Palaces* erected, a *Nation* impover-
‘ ish'd, *Subjects* Sold and Betray'd: Hush, for your
‘ Life! These are stale hackney Topicks: The *Tauto-*
‘ *logy* of mercenary Scriblers, hired by the Poor, to
‘ confound the Rich: But do you shew your Artifice
‘ and Cunning an uncommon Way. Is a *Minister* well
‘ Born? Has he a long *Pedigree*? Does he understand
‘ *Hebrew* or *Syriack*? Did you ever hear him *Whisper*?
‘ Has he a *good Collection* of Books? Is his *Library* free
‘ of access? Will his *Brother* speak well to *Trade*? —
‘ You stare: But, Sir, do you not see your Danger?
‘ Will Vengeance never overtake such horrid Impie-
‘ ties? If these Enormities are suffer'd, farewell *Li-*
‘ *berty*, *Law*, *Religion*, *Constitution*; and all that is worth
‘ saving, in the Rights and Priviledges of *Englishmen*.

Then the whole Assembly may be supposed to have utter'd one general *Groan*, with a hideous *Tragical* Accent.

O Liberty! O Virtue! O my Country!

LONDON: Printed for *John Morphew*, near *Stationers-Hall*. 1713.